



TETON COUNTY WEED AND PEST DISTRICT

## Leafy Spurge *Euphorbia esula L.*

Leafy spurge is a perennial, which stands erect and grows up to three feet tall with very small flowers enclosed by yellow-green, paired, heart-shaped leaves. Growing in nearly all soil types and habitats, leafy spurge is virtually impossible to control without the use of integrated management. With deep spreading roots often exceeding 20 feet in depth, the plant is able to create new buds from the rootstock – so if it is pulled, mowed, burned or cut up – it will persistently come back. Its seed capsules disperse by literally exploding, shooting seeds up to 15 feet. The plant contains a milky substance, which when contact with can cause blisters, rashes, or blindness (if contact with the eyes occurs). It is often spread down waterways and in contaminated livestock feed. Leafy spurge is poisonous to cattle.

Flower



Leafy spurge currently infests all western states and much of the midwest and northeast covering millions of acres. However, Teton County currently has less than 40 acres. Due to the severe threat that leafy spurge poses to land values and wildlife habitat, Teton County Weed & Pest has a special program through which we will be happy to assist you in controlling any leafy spurge infestations on your property. Please call our office for more information.

**If you find this weed on your property or around Teton County, please report it immediately at 733-8419**

Milky Latex



Infestation brought in a trees root ball

